

HIS MAJESTIES
DECLARATION
To all His Loving Subjects.

After His Victories over

THE LORD FAIRFAX
IN THE NORTH,

AND,

S^r WILLIAM WALLER
IN THE WEST,

AND,

THE TAKING OF BRISTOW
by His Majesties Forces.

Charles R.

Our expresse pleasure is, That this Our Declaration be
Published in all Churches and Chapples within the
Kingdom of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, by the Par-
sons, Vicars or Curats of the same.

Printed by His Majesties Command
At *Oxford*, July 30.

And re-Printed at *Tork* by *Stephen Bulkeley*, 1643.
By speciall Command.

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DECLARATION
 To all His Loving Subjects

And His Vicegerent
THE LORD FAIRFAX
 IN THE NORTH
 AND
ST. WILLIAM WALLER
 IN THE WEST,
 AND
THE TAKING OF BRISTOW
 by His Majesty's Forces.

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HIS MAJESTIES
DECLARATION
 To all His loving Subjects.

AFTER
HIS VICTORIES OVER

The Lord Fairfax in the North,

Sir William Waller in the West,

and the taking of Bristol by His

Majesties Forces.

THE Grievances and Losses of no particular Persons since these miserable bloody Distempers have disquieted this poore Kingdom, can be compared to the losse and dammage We Our Selfe have sustained, there having been no Victory obtained but in the Blood of Our Owne Subjects, nor no Rapine or Violence committed but to the Impoverishment, and Ruine of Our Owne People, so a blessed and a happy Peace cannot be so acceptable and welcome

welcome to any man as to Us: Almighty God to whom all the secrets of Our Heart are open, who hath so often, and so miraculously preserved Us, to whose power alone We must attribute the goodness of Our present Condition, (how unhappy soever it is with reference to the publique Calamities) knows with what unwillingness, with what anguish of Soule, We submitted Our Self to the necessity of taking up Defensive Armes; and the World knows with what Justice and Bounty We had repared Our Subjects for all the Pressures and Inconveniences they had borne, by such excellent Laws as would for ever have prevented the like, and with what earnestness and importunity We desired to add any thing for the establishment of the Religion, Laws, and Liberty of the Kingdom. How all these have been disturbed, invaded, and almost destroyed by Faction, Sedition, and Treason, by those who have neither Reverence to God, or Affection to Men, but have sacrificed both to their own Ends and Ambition, is now so evident, that We hope, as God hath wonderfully manifested his care of Us, and his defence of his and Our most just Cause, so he hath so farre touched the hearts of Our People, that their Eyes are at last opened to see how miserably they have been seduced, and to abhorre those Persons whose Malice and Subtilty have seduced them to dishonour him, to Rebell against Us, and to bring so such misery and calamity upon their Native Country.

We well remember the *Profession* voluntarily made by Us, in the head of that small Army We were Master of in September last, to defend, and maintain the true reformed Protestant Religion, and as it should please God by his blessing upon that Army to preserve Us from this Rebellion, that We would maintain the just Priviledges and Freedom of Parliament, and governe by the known Lawes of the

the Land, & whose defence in truth that Army was onely
 raised, and hath been kept. And there cannot be a more
 reasonable time to renew this Protestation then now, when
 God hath vouchsafed Us so many Victories and Successes,
 and hath rendered the power of those who seek to destroy
 Us, lesse formidable then it hath bin, (so that We shall pro-
 bably not fall under the scandalous Imputation which hath
 usually attended Our Messages of Peace, That they pro-
 ceeded from the weaknesse of Our power, nor love of Our
 People,) and when there is more freedom in many Coun-
 tries for Our good Subjects to receive true Information of
 their owne and Our Condition, the knowledge whereof
 hath been with equall Industry and Injustice kept from
 them, as other Acts of Cruelty have been imposed on them.
 We doe therefore declare to all the World in the presence
 of Almighty God to whom we must give a strict Ac-
 count of all Our Professions and Protestations, That We
 are so farre from intending any alteration of the Religion
 established, as hath been often falsely, scandalously, and a-
 gainst the Conscience of the Contrivers themselves of
 that rumour suggested to Our people) or from the least
 thought of invading the Liberry and property of the Sub-
 ject, or violating the just Priviledges of Parliament, that
 We call that God to witnesse, who hath covered Our Head
 in the day of Battell, That We desire from Our Soule, and
 shall alwayes use Our utmost endeavour to preserve and
 advance the true reformed Protestant Religion established
 in the Church of England, in which We were borne, have
 faithfully lived, and by the grace of God shall resolutely
 dye. That the preservation of the Liberry and Property
 of the Subject in the due observation of the knowne Lawes
 of the Land, shall be equally Our care as the maintenancē
 of Our Owne Rights, We desiring to governe onely by
 those

those good Lawes, which still they were oppressed by this
 odious Rebellion, preserve this Nation, that we and We
 do acknowledge the just Priviledges of Parliaments to be an
 essentiall part of those Lawes, and shall therefore most so-
 lemnely defend and observe them. So that in such matters
 Religion, Law or Liberty be precious to Our People, they
 will by their submission to Us joyn with Us in the defence
 of them, and thereby establish that Peace, by which only
 they can flourish and be enjoyed. Whether those men,
 who are professed Enemies to the established Ecclesiasti-
 call Government, who reproach and persecute the Learned
 Orthodox Ministers of the Church, and into their places
 put Ignorant, Seditious, and Schismaticall Preachers, who
 vilifie the Book of Common Prayer, and impiously pro-
 piane Gods Worship with their scurrilous and seditious
 denunciations, are like to advance that Religion, whether those
 men who boldly, and without the least shadow or colour
 of Law, impose insupportable Taxes and odious Excises
 upon their fellow Subjects, Imprison, Torment, and mur-
 der them, are like to preserve the Liberty, and Property
 of the Subject, and whether those men who seize and pos-
 sess themselves of Our own unquestionable Revenue, and
 Our just Rights, have denied Us Our Negative Voyce,
 have by Force & Violence awed and terrified the Members
 of both Houses, and lastly, have, as far as in them lyes, dis-
 solved the present Parliament by driving away & Imprisoning
 the Members, and resolving the whole power thereof, and
 more, into a Committee of a few Men, contrary to all Law,
 Custome, or Precedent, are like to vindicate and uphold
 the Priviledges of Parliaments, all the world may judge. We
 do therefore once more conjure Our good Subjects by their
 memory of that excellent Peace, and firme happiness
 with which it pleased God to reward their Duty and Loy-
 alty

(35)
slay in time past by their Ombes of Allegiance and Supremacy which no new Voy or Covenant contrived, and administered to and by themselves, can cancell or evade, by whatsoever is dear and precious unto them in this life, or hoped or prayed for in the life to come. That they will remember their Duty and consider their Interest, and no longer suffer themselves to be misled, their Prince dishonoured, and their Country wasted and undone, by the malice & cunning of these State Impostours, who under pretence of Reformation would introduce whatsoever is monstrous & unnaturall both to Religion and Policy, but that they rather chuse quietly to enjoy their Religion, Property, and Liberty founded and provided for by the wisdom and Industry of former times, and secured and enlarged by the blessings upon the present Age, then to spend their lives and fortunes to purchase Confusion, and to make themselves lvable to the most intolerable kind of slavery, that is, to be slaves to their fellow Subjects, who by their prodigious unheard of Acts of oppression and Tyranny, have given them sufficient evidence what they are to expect at their hands. And let not Our good People, who have been misled, or through want of understanding, or want of Courage submitted themselves to unwarrantable and disloyall Actions be taught by their Seducers, that their safety now consists in despaire, and that they can only secure themselves for the Ills they have done, by a resolute and peremptory Disobedience. Revenge and Blood-thirstynesse have never been imputed to Us by those, who have left neither Our Government or Nature unexamined with the greatest boldnesse and malice; and all those who since these bloody Distractions out of Conscience have returned from their evil wayes to Us, have found that it was not so easie for them to repent, as to Us to forgive; and whosoever hath
been

been misled by those, whose hearts from the beginning
have designed all this mischief, and shall redeem their past
Crimes by their present service and Loyalty in the appre-
hending, or opposing such who shall continue to bear
Armes against Us, and shall use their utmost endeavours to
reduce those men to their due Obedience, and to restore
this Kingdom to it's wonted Peace, shall have cause to
magnifie Our mercy, and to repent the Treppasses com-
mitted against so Just and Gracious a Sovereigne. Lastly,
We desire all our good Subjects, who have really assisted
or really wished Us well, now God hath done such won-
derfull things for Us, vigorously to endeavour to put an
end to all these miseries, by bringing in Men, Money,
Plate, Horses, or Armes to Our Aid; that so, We being not
wanting to Our selves, may with confidence expect the con-
tinuance of Gods favour to restore Us all to that blessed
Harmony of Affection, which may establish a true
Peace, without the bloody obtaining of which
this poor Kingdom will be utterly
ruined. And let not Our Subjects, who have been mis-
led, or through want of understanding, or want of Courage
substituted themselves to unwarrantable and dishonourable
ones be troubled with their seducement, for they now con-
fess in desiring, and that they can only secure themselves
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been